# A COLLECTION

OF

# ANTIQUE VASES, TRIPODS, CANDELABRA, etc.

from various Museums and Collections after Engravings by HENRY MOSES and others.

With over 222 reproductions selected by JOMN TIRANTI



1921

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## FOREWORD.

F the following collection of plates, the first sixty have been selected from the engravings of Henry Moses; the remainder are reproductions from a work by an unknown Italian engrayer, which was published in Rome in 1840. Although Piranesi died in 1778 and the Collection of Antique Vases" was not published by Moses until 1814, it was his immense energy and vitality that fired the enthusiasm and imagination of half Europe with a flame that burned well on into the middle of the nineteenth century. There is, indeed, no end to the ramifications of his influence, Adam, Chippendale, and Sheraton. Chambers, Pergolesi, and Dance, all profited by his work, which, consciously or unconsciously, moulded the very lines of English eighteenth century furniture. Oscar Wilde, indulging in a rhetorical outburst in "Intentions," maintains that had it not been for Piranesi, Keat's "Ode to a Grecian Urn" would never have been written. order to realise with what avidity engravings of Rome were sought after, it is first necessary to appreciate the fact that in the latter part of the eighteenth century a certain weariness of Palladian purity began to insinuate itself, alike in the mind of architect and of patron, they were thus ripe for the mysteries which Piranesi disclosed to them. mysteries of ornament and style rather than the pure abstractions of the orders. And Piranesi was followed by a host of lesser engravers. lesser not only because they lacked his skill, but because they lacked his imagination.

The year of Henry Moses' birth is not certain, but it is thought to have been in 1782. He died in 1870, at the fine old age of 88. During the first half of the nineteenth century he was very prolific. One of his first labours was to assist in the official publication "Ancient Marbles in the British Museum," upon which he was engaged from 1812 to 1845, so that already at the age of 30 he had achieved a fair reputation. Among his most important works, in addition to the one already mentioned from which these plates are selected, are "The Gallery of Pictures painted by Benjamin West," 12 plates in 1811, "Examples of Ornamental Sculpture in Architecture," drawn by Vulliamy," 36 plates, 1823. He also illustrated several books, amongst them Goethe's Faust. with engravings after Retzch, 26 plates, 1821, and, at the request of the Art Union of London in 1844, he engraved 22 illustrations for "The Pilgrim's Progress " after H. C. Selous. His work also includes various sea sketches, as the titles of the following three works indicate: "Views of Ramsgate," "Sketches of Shipping," and "Marine Sketch Book." The outstanding qualities of Moses' work are its purity of line and its accuracy.

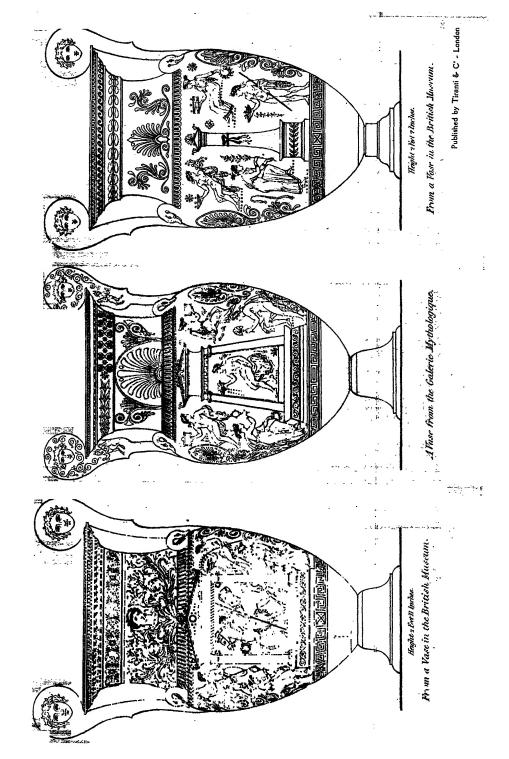
"Few remains of antiquity have excited more interest than vases. The variety and the elegance of their forms, the singularity of their designs, the beauty of the compositions with which they are adorned, and the important instruction which the subjects of these pictures

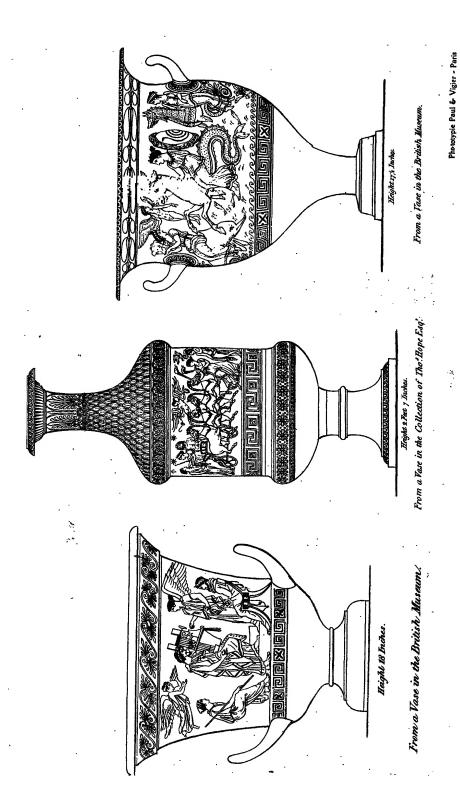
convey, have conspired to render them peculiarly attractive." These words are quoted from the first of a series of essays which occur at the beginning of "A Collection of Antique Vases." Even to-day when the erstwhile glamour of a first discovery has long passed, it is impossible not to react to these qualities to which Moses alludes. A selection has been made from the vases for inclusion in the following collection, and the student cannot but realise that for purity of contour these vases can scarcely be excelled. The paintings on the outsides of the vases are worthy of close study, often they deal with mythological or historical subjects.

There is little doubt but that the Empire Style owes much to the work of Piranesi; to the designs which he disseminated, and it is only necessary to look at the Tripods, some of which, although engraved by Moses are after Piranesi, at once to re-capture not only the spirit of Rome but also that of the Empire, it is no exaggeration to say that, had the engravings not been made, the whole complexion and accoutrements of the coronation of Napoleon, as depicted by Percier and Fontaine, would have been changed, and students of these plates who are quick to observe a nuance will feel this connection most sharply, perhaps, in the selection from the tripods.

It is a little difficult to-day to realise the different place which architecture filled the life in the Roman Empire, to that to which it has now sunk under our own so distinctly individualistic regime. Wherever the Roman went, and he went far and wide across Europe and into parts of Africa and Asia, he left his mark which was supremely an architectural one. His love of order, of directness and simplicity is to be observed in his town-planning, which was clear-cut and axial, the shortest route between two points, in contradistinction to the mediæval method which was to allow a town to develop slowly around some natural object, such as a ford, a river-bed, or even a path, but the Roman's love of rich embellishment, of fine craftsmanship is seen most clearly, perhaps, in the objects reproduced in these plates. Sordid as are the streets of our cities to-day, lacking cohesion and comprehensive treatment, lacking unity and bold enterprise, depicting individual arrogance instead of a great civic pride, there is yet a new spirit abroad which feels how, with the wonderful resources at our disposal, viz.: electricity, steam and the like, the time must come when order will arise The future generation of architects are scattered throughout the country in schools, most of which are infused with this new ideal, but they alone, whatever be their skill, their vision, or their erudition are yet unable, without the co-operation and goodwill of an enlightened and keenly interested public, to achieve great results. In the following plates may be found matter to fire the imagination of the layman and to increase the knowledge and develop the taste of the student, whether he be architect, craftsman or decorator.

H.J.B.



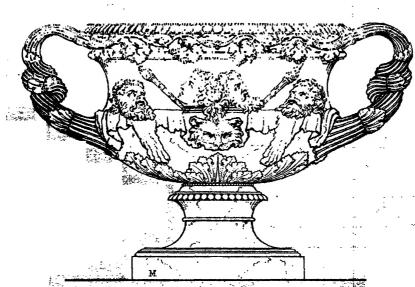




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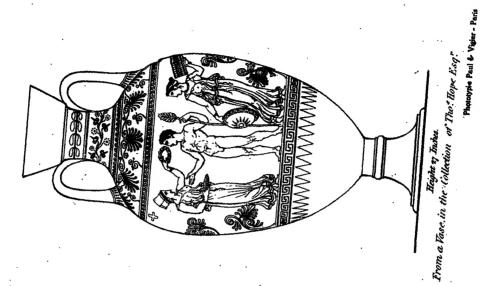


The Portland Pase, now in the British Museum



Height Stot - Inches

A Grand antique Backanalian Vase in the possession or the Earl of Warwick.

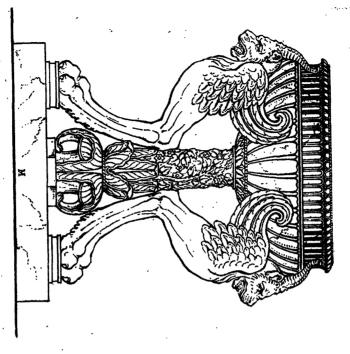


An Altar from the Musee Napoteon.

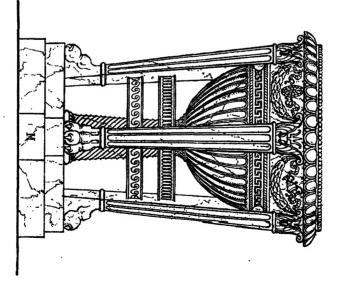
A Seputetion Cappus From Piranesi.

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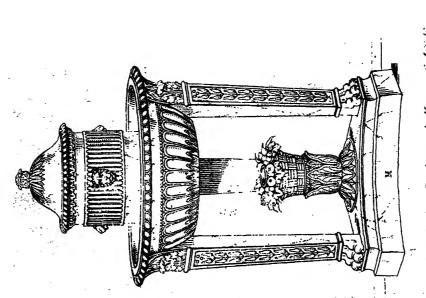
An Antique Taxxa from Tiranssi.



An antique Tripod From Piranesi.

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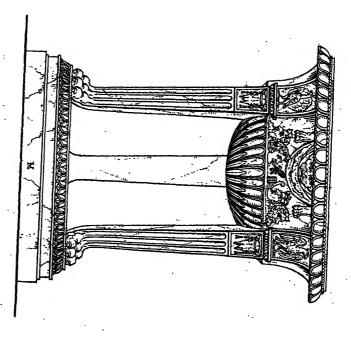


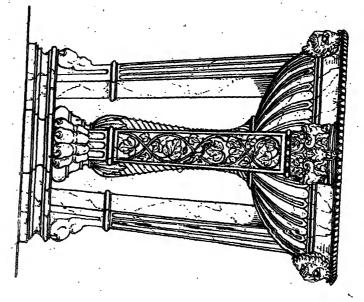
A domestic Fountain, from Roccheygeunis Monumenti Antichi.

# In Etruscan Attar from Roccheggeanis Monumenti Antichi.

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A Tripod from Rocchezgianis Monuncruti Antichi.





A Triped in the Musee Napoleon

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A Grand antique Inzza & Podostal irom Piranesi.

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nn. Intique l'inerary Urn at Castle Howard.

Phototypie Paul & Vigier, - Paris

A Sepulchrid appus from the Muser Napolean.

A Sepulcheral Allins in the Intiquitates second or crifts formulation explicator



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An Altar from the Libreria di San Marco.

A Oppus from the Intiquitates sacre et-civiles romannoum explienter.

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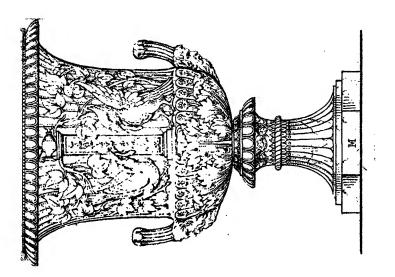
A Sepulched appus, from Piranesi.

Lsepulchrad Cippus irom Piranesi.

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From an Altar at Rome.

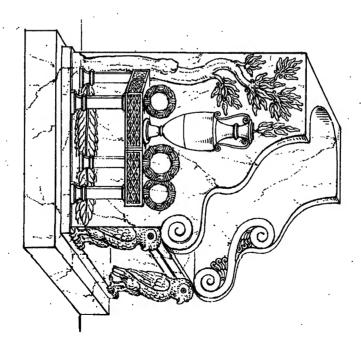
A Appus from the Barabase Collection.



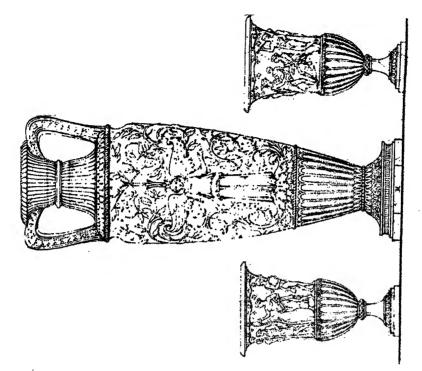
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An Altur from Caracippi.



A Marble Chair of the Gymnasiarch from Swarts Athens.

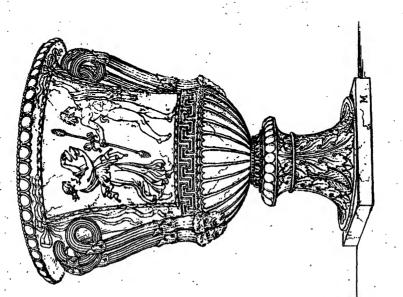


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A Marble Vase in the British Moseum.

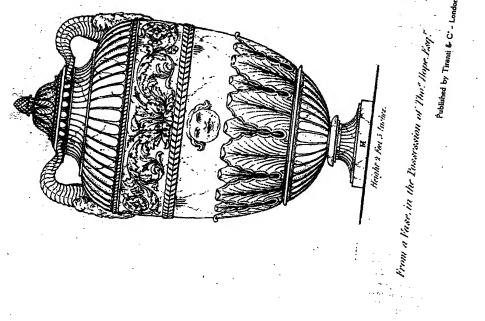
Hophs 3 Feet

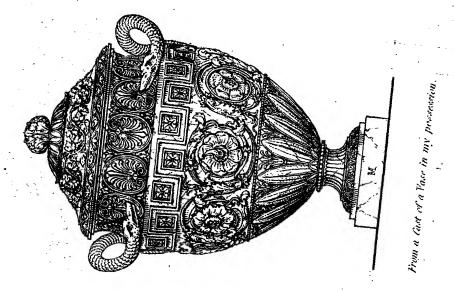




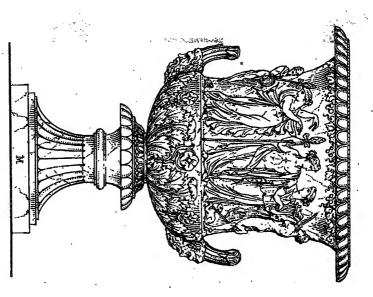
I'm a Vasc in the possession of the Marquis of Buckingham.

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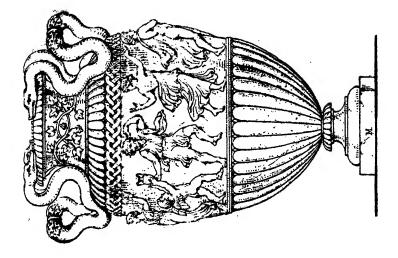


A Vase from Raccheggiunis Monumenti Antichi.



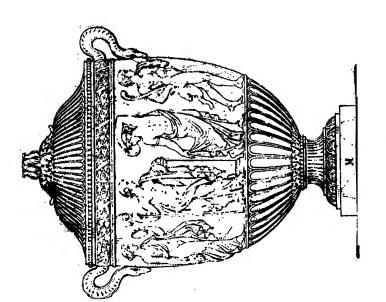
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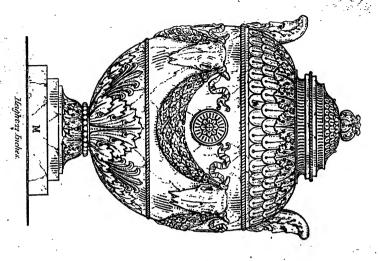


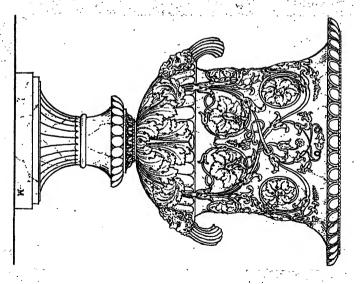
From a Vase in a Private Collection at Rome.

A Vase from Dirmess.



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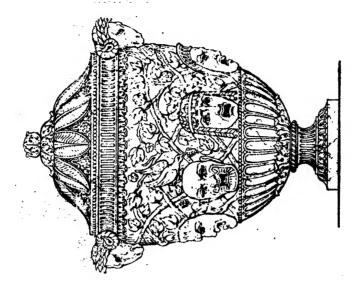




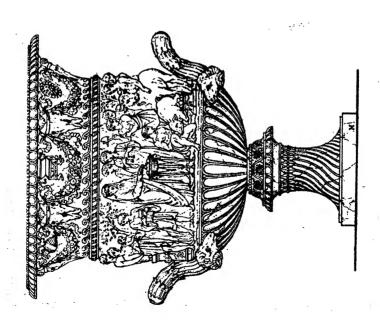
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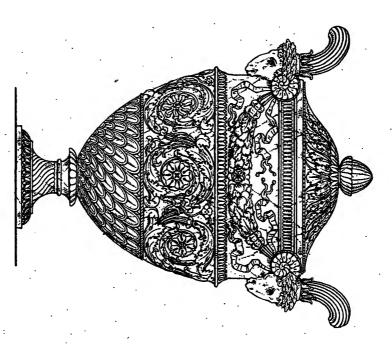
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An antique Vase thom Piranesi .

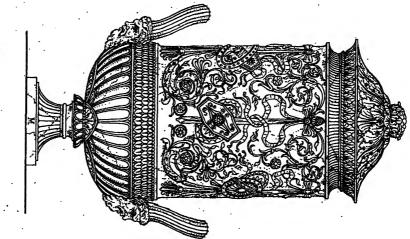


A Grand Fase irom Piranesi.





A Vase trom Piraucsi.

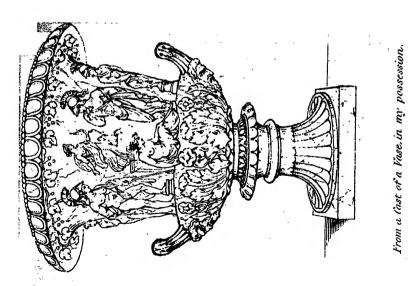


A Ginerary Urn. from Piranesi.

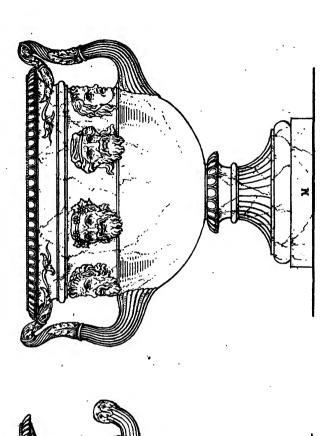
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From a Vase, in a Collection at Suphs.



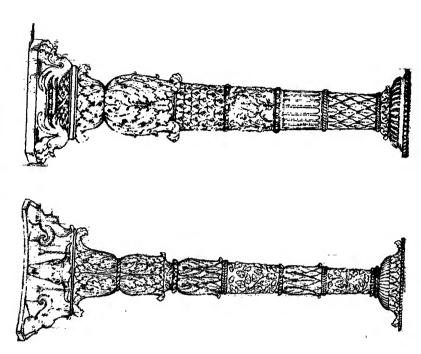
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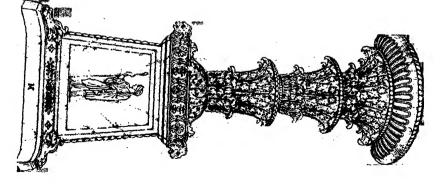
A Vase from Caraceppis Collection.

. Wase in the possession of His Grace the Duke of Bedford

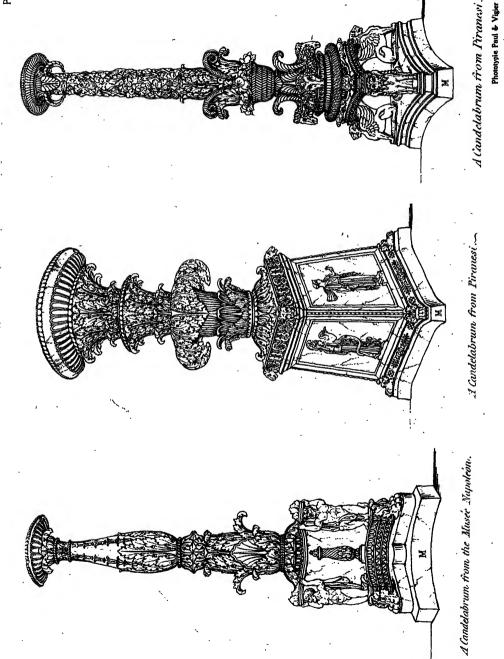
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fandelahra in Blez Musee Napoleon .

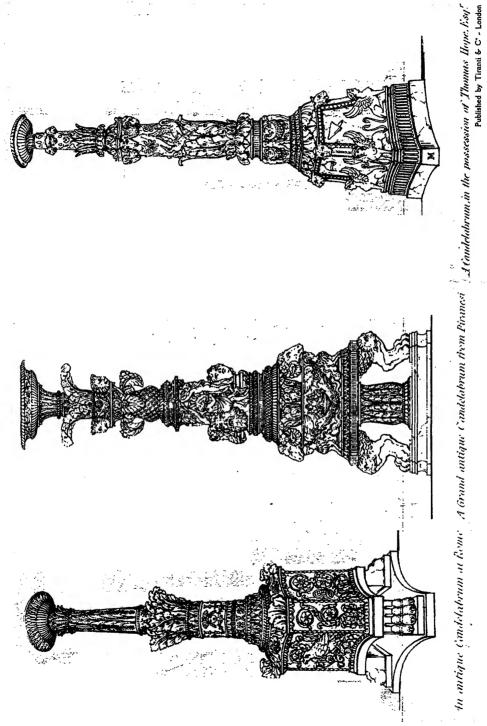


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d Candelabrum from Piranesi.

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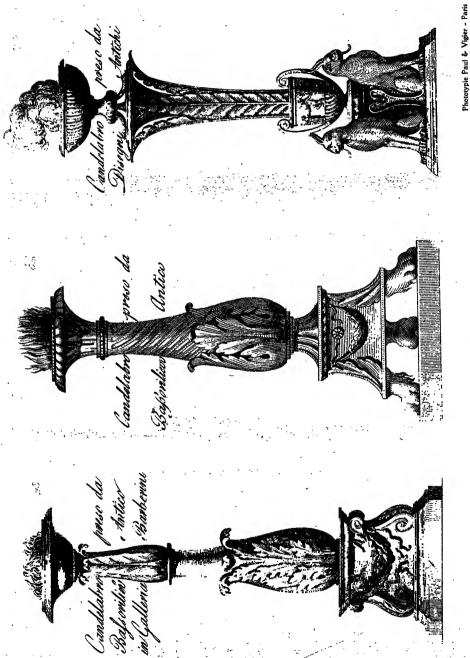
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Candelabra from Caraceppi Sec.

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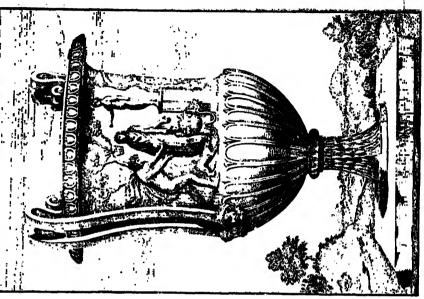
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VASES and CANDELABRA (ancient)

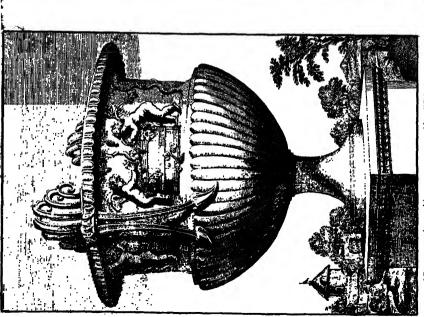


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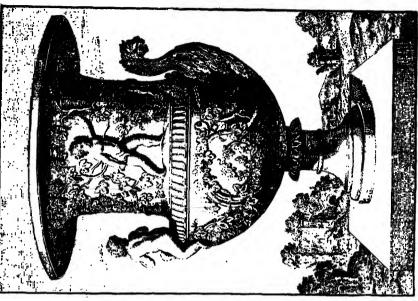
Vaso antico che una uolta si Conseruana in im priuato Giardino prefso S.Pietro in Vincola



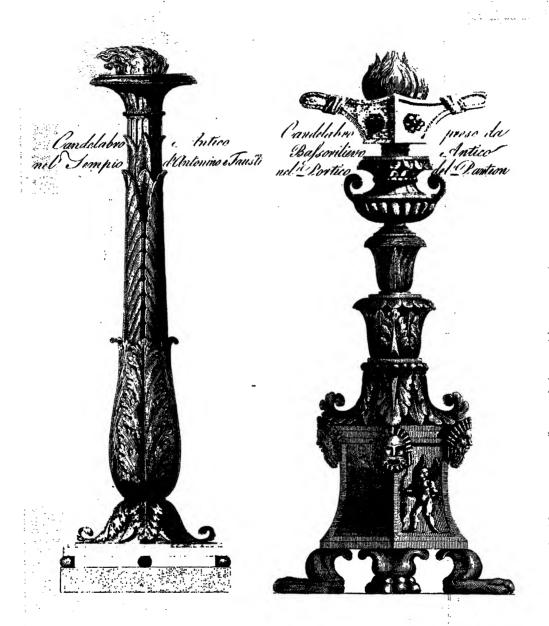
Vasc antice canale da un Verchio Disegno solko cui si. Entincia e he gia fifse in un Giardino di Baskuere



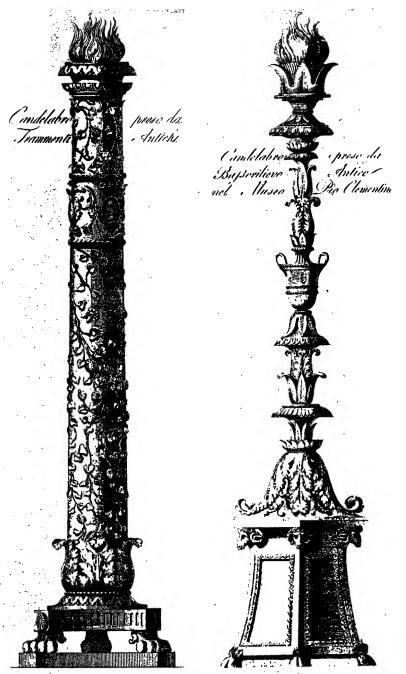
Vaso antico di Marmo nella Villa Estense inTiuoli



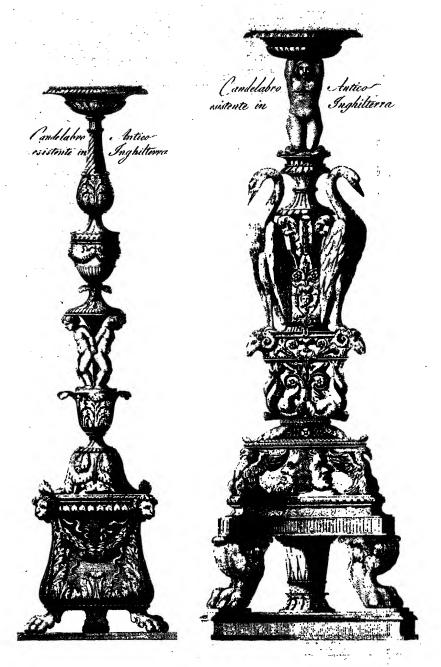
Vaso antico tratto da un Oisegno in cui si Enuncia che si Conseruaua in una Vigna incino S. Lorenzo fuori delle Mura di Roma



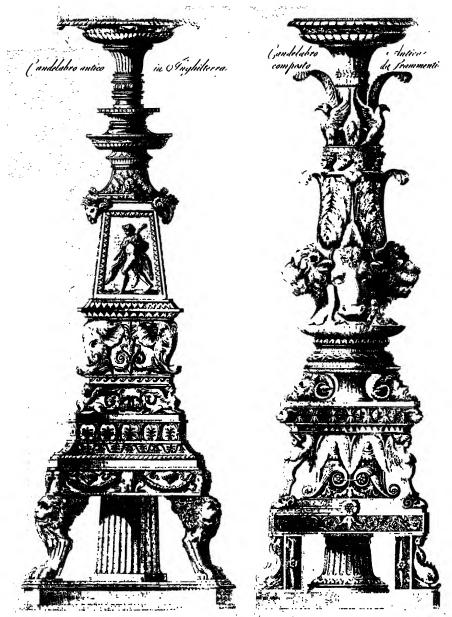
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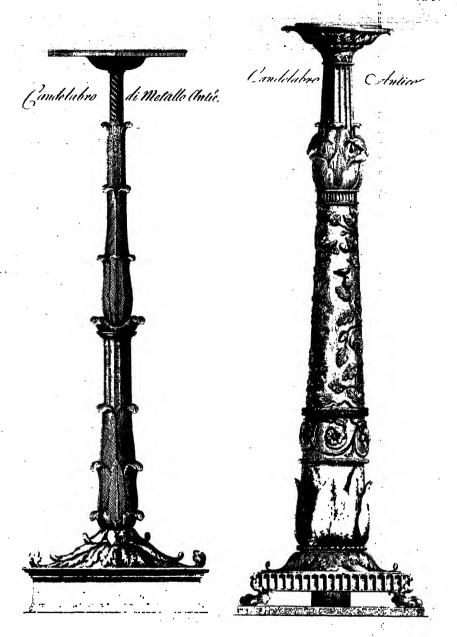


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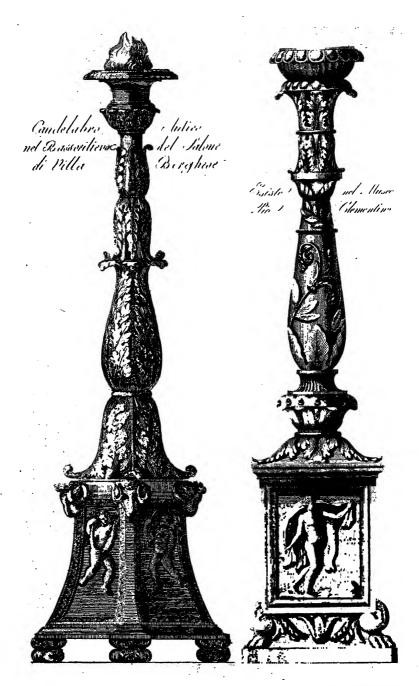


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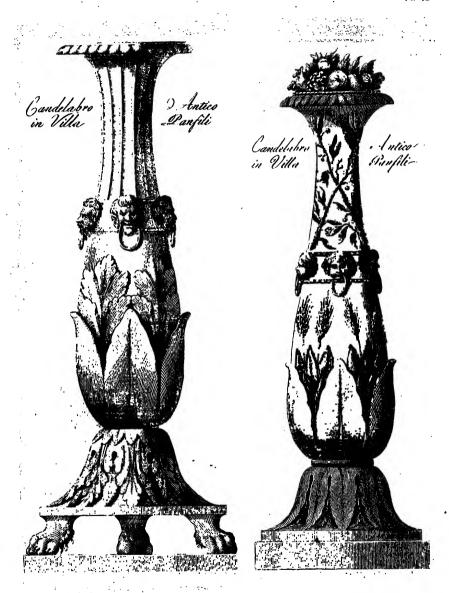
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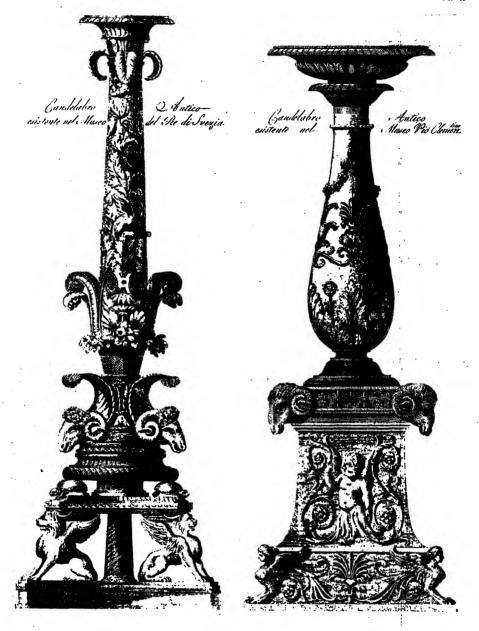
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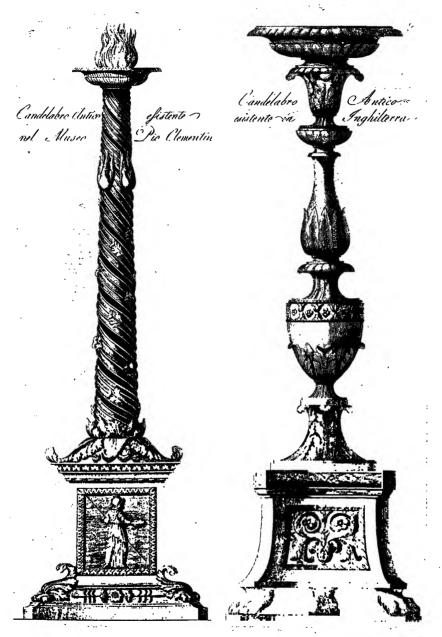


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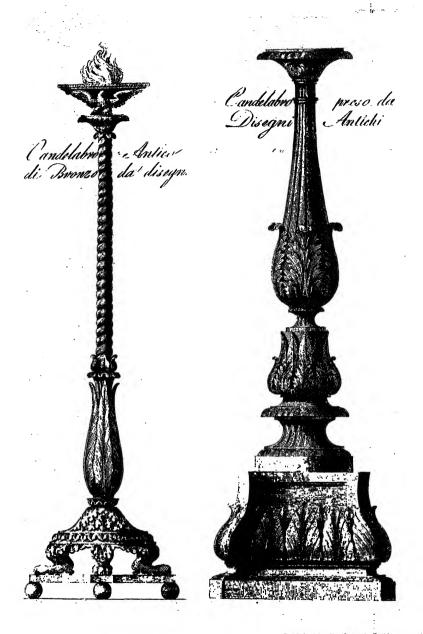


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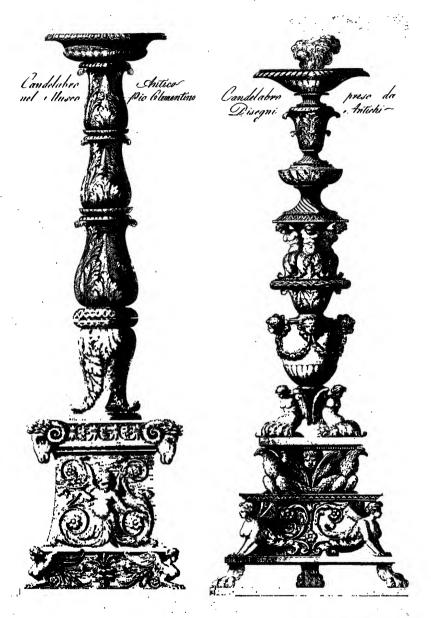
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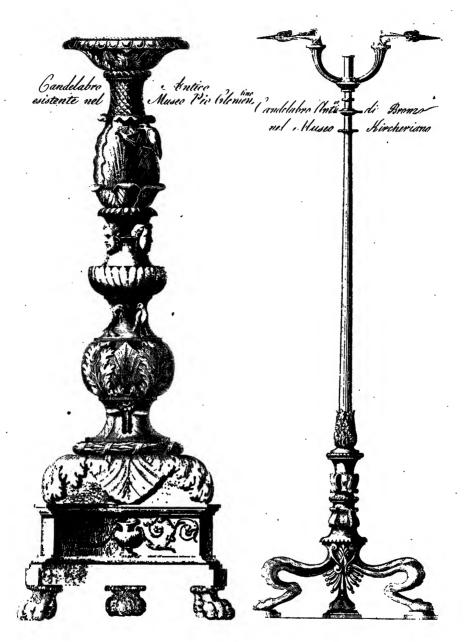
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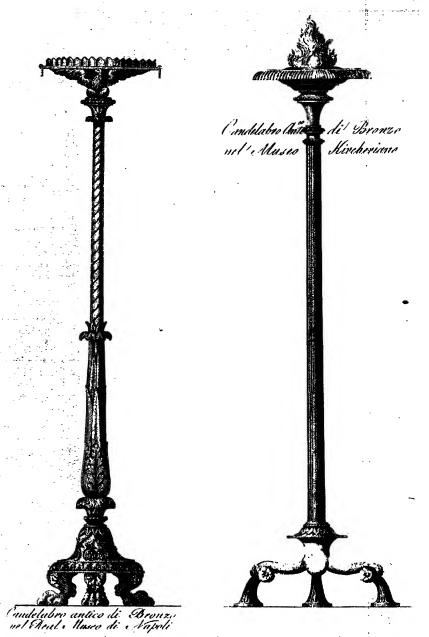
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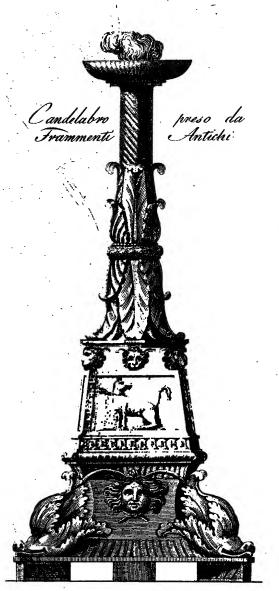
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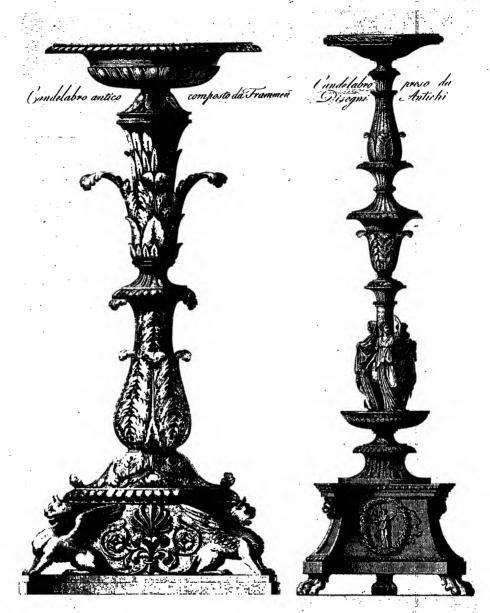


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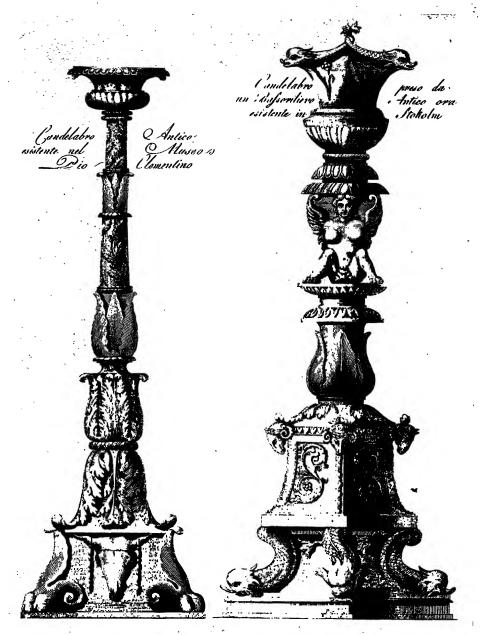




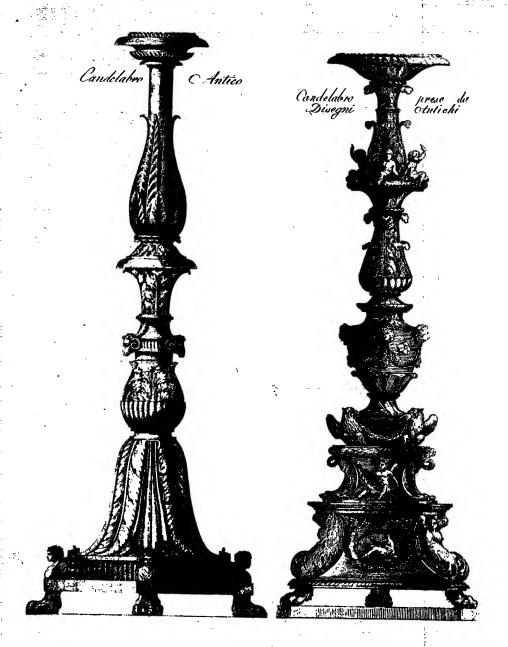
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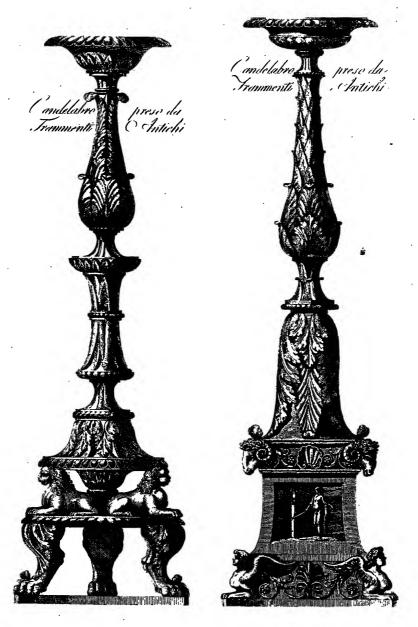
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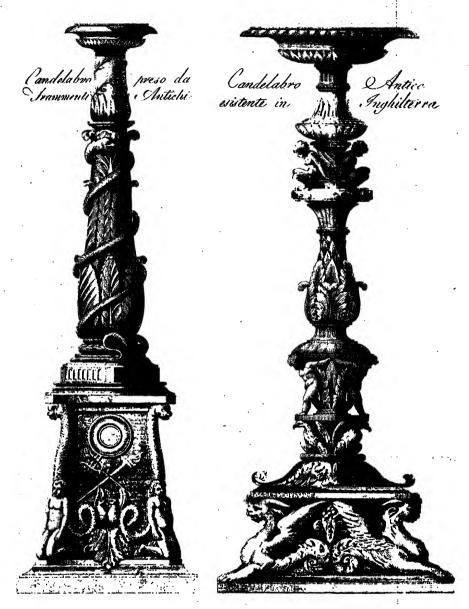


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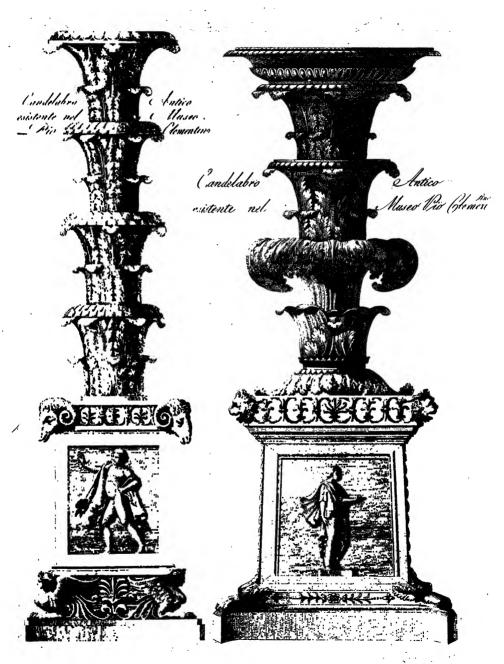


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VASES and CANDELABRA (ancient)

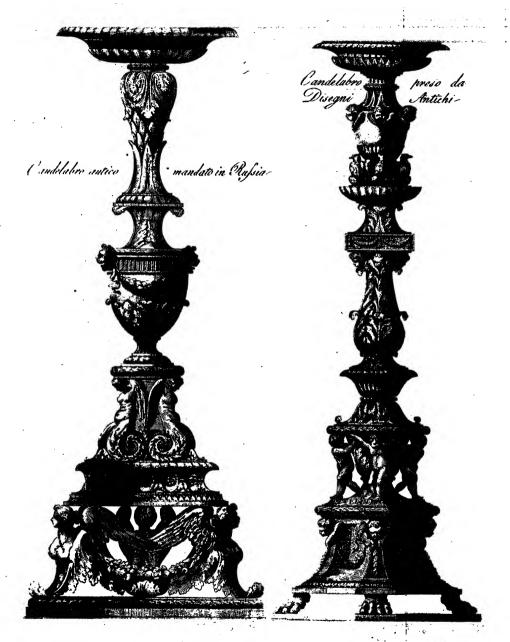


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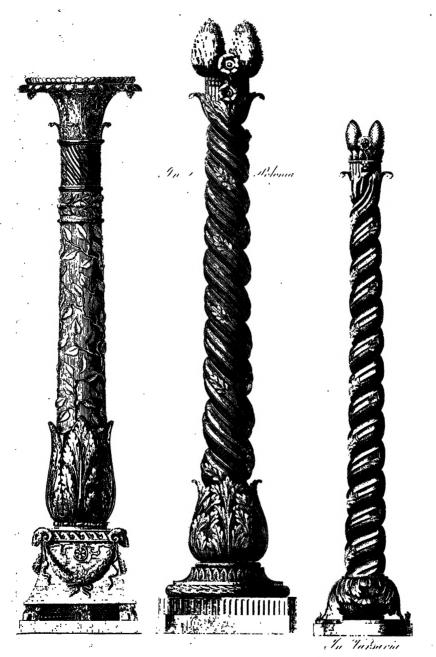


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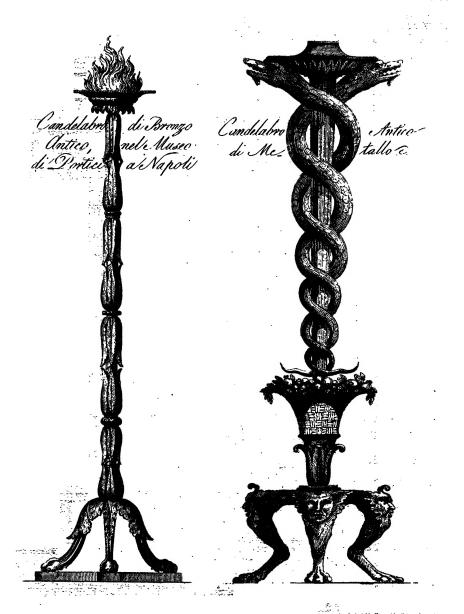
VASES and CANDELABRA (ancient)



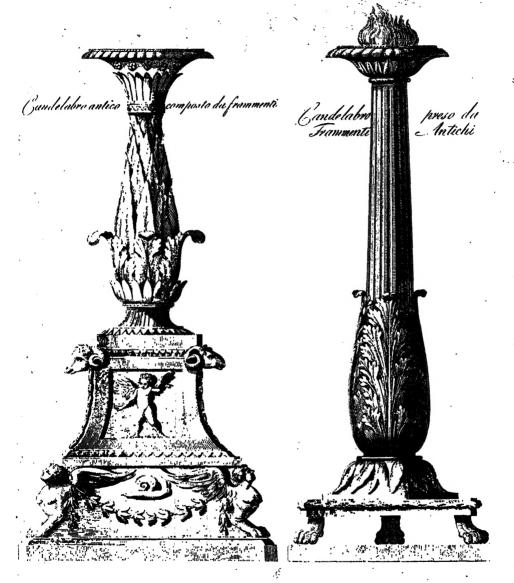
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